

REMARKS**Summary**

Claims 1-13 and 31-46 were pending. Claims 1-13 and 31-46 were rejected in the present Office action. The Applicants have amended Claims 1,12,31,34 and 45 and canceled Claims 11,32,33,44. No new matter has been added. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-13 and 31-46 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1,2 and 16 of copending Application No. 10/879,947. Claims 1-13 and 31-46 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-28 of copending Application No. 10/747,690.

With respect to the double patenting rejection of claims 1-13 and 31-46, Applicants respectfully submit that this double patenting rejection is believed to be moot in view of the amendments in claims 1 and 31.

Claim 1 recites an apparatus for driving a liquid crystal comprising a combination of elements including, "a backlight that supplies light to the liquid crystal panel display divided into a plurality of regions in accordance with a driving voltage or current, wherein the backlight comprises a plurality of lamps, each of the lamps providing light to a different region of the plurality of regions" and "wherein the picture quality improving unit controls individually the plurality of lamps so that light proportional to the brightness of the each region is supplied to the liquid crystal panel from the backlight."

Claim 31 recites an apparatus that increases contrast of images displayed in a liquid crystal display comprising a combination of elements including, "a backlight that supplies light to the liquid crystal panel divided into a plurality of regions, wherein the backlight comprises a plurality of lamps, each of the lamps providing light to a different region of the plurality of regions" and "wherein the picture quality improving unit controls

individually the plurality of lamps so that light proportional to the brightness of the each region is supplied to the liquid crystal panel from the backlight."

The rejection of claims 1-13 and 31-46 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Because copending Application No. 10/879,947 and copending Application No. 10/747,690 fail to teach or suggest an apparatus having the above identified combination of features recited in claim 1 and 31 of the present application, claims 1 and 31 and its dependent claims 2-10,12-13 and 34-46 are allowable over any combination of copending Application No. 10/879,947 and copending Application No. 10/747,690.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-10,12-13,31 and 34-46 are pending. In view of the amendments herein and for at least the reasons presented above, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn, and that a timely notice of allowance issue.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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